

**Amendments to the Claims:**

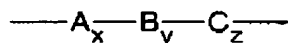
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1 (currently amended): An ink recording element comprising a support having thereon a hydrophilic absorbing layer comprising succinylated gelatin and an adhesion promoting hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer comprising cellulose ether and vinyl latex polymer, wherein said cellulose ether comprises hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and methyl cellulose.

2 (canceled)

3 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said vinyl latex polymer comprises the following formula:



wherein:

A is a hydrophilic or reactive, vinyl monomer;

B is a hydrophobic, vinyl monomer;

C is a vinyl monomer bearing ionic charge;

x is from about 10 to about 80 mole %;

y is from about 0 to about 85 mole %; and

z is from about 2 to about 20 mole %.

4 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said vinyl latex polymer comprises poly(n-butyl acrylate-co-2-aminoethyl methacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate).

5 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 further comprising at least one hydrophilic inner layer between said hydrophilic absorbing layer and said hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer.

6 (original): The ink recording element of claim 5 wherein said inner layer has a dry thickness of from 0.5 to 5 microns.

7 (original): The ink recording element of claim 5 wherein said inner layer comprises a poly(vinyl alcohol).

8 (original): The ink recording element of claim 7 wherein said inner layer further comprises a polyurethane dispersion.

9 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said succinylated gelatin comprises pigskin gelatin.

10 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said succinylated gelatin comprises gelatin modified with alkylenesuccinic acid.

11 (original): The ink recording element of claim 10 wherein said alkylenesuccinic acid is dodecenylsuccinic acid.

12 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said hydrophilic absorbing layer has a dry thickness of from 5 to 60 microns.

13 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer has a dry thickness of from 0.5 to 5 microns.

14 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said hydrophilic absorbing layer further comprises unmodified gelatin.

15 (original): The ink recording element of Claim 1 wherein said ink recording element further comprises dye mordants.

16 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein the ratio of said cellulose ether to said vinyl latex polymer is between 95:5 and 50:50.

17 (original): The ink recording element of claim 1 wherein said ink recording element comprises an inkjet recording element.

18 (withdrawn): An ink printing method comprising providing an ink recording element comprising a support having a hydrophilic absorbing layer comprising succinylated gelatin and an adhesion promoting hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer comprising cellulose ether and vinyl latex polymer, and applying liquid ink droplets thereon in an image-wise manner, wherein said cellulose ether comprises hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and methyl cellulose.

19 (withdrawn): ~~The method of Claim 18 wherein cellulose ether comprises hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose and methyl cellulose.~~

20 (withdrawn): The method of claim 18 wherein said vinyl latex polymer comprises the following formula:

wherein:

A is a hydrophilic or reactive, vinyl monomer;

B is a hydrophobic, vinyl monomer;

C is a vinyl monomer bearing ionic charge;

x is from about 10 to about 80 mole %;

y is from about 0 to about 85 mole %; and

z is from about 2 to about 20 mole %.

21 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 18 wherein said vinyl latex polymer comprises poly(n-butyl acrylate-co-2-aminoethyl methacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate).

22 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 18 wherein said support further comprises at least one hydrophilic inner layer between said hydrophilic absorbing layer and said hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer.

23 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 18 wherein said gelatin comprises pigskin gelatin.

24 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 18 wherein said hydrophilic absorbing layer further comprises unmodified gelatin.

25 (withdrawn): The method of Claim 18 wherein said ink recording element further comprises dye mordants.

26 (withdrawn): The method of claim 18 wherein the ratio of said cellulose ether to said vinyl latex polymer is between 95:5 and 50:50.

27 (withdrawn): The method of claim 18 wherein said ink recording element comprises an inkjet recording element.

28 (new): An ink recording element comprising a support having thereon a hydrophilic absorbing layer comprising succinylated gelatin and a hydrophilic overcoat polymer layer comprising cellulose ether and vinyl latex polymer wherein said vinyl latex polymer comprises poly(n-butyl acrylate-co-2-aminoethyl methacrylate-co-2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate).